

Abstract

The present invention concerns new conjugates, processes for their production as well as the use of these conjugates as antigens in immunological detection methods or for DNA diagnostics.

1. A conjugate comprising a carrier molecule and a nucleic acid molecule covalently bonded to the carrier molecule, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is a DNA molecule or an RNA molecule.

2. The conjugate of claim 1, wherein the carrier molecule is a protein molecule.

3. The conjugate of claim 1, wherein the carrier molecule is a polysaccharide molecule.

4. The conjugate of claim 1, wherein the carrier molecule is a lipid molecule.

5. The conjugate of claim 1, wherein the carrier molecule is a synthetic polymer molecule.

6. The conjugate of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is a DNA molecule.

7. The conjugate of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is an RNA molecule.

8. A process for the production of a conjugate according to claim 1, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a carrier molecule and a nucleic acid molecule;

b) covalently bonding the nucleic acid molecule to the carrier molecule.

9. The process of claim 8, wherein the carrier molecule is a protein molecule.

10. The process of claim 8, wherein the carrier molecule is a polysaccharide molecule.

11. The process of claim 8, wherein the carrier molecule is a lipid molecule.

12. The process of claim 8, wherein the carrier molecule is a synthetic polymer molecule.

13. The process of claim 8, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is a DNA molecule.

14. The process of claim 8, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is an RNA molecule.

15. A method for immunological detection, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a sample containing a target molecule;

b) reacting the sample with a conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is a DNA molecule or an RNA molecule;

c) detecting the target molecule.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the target molecule is an antigen.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the target molecule is a nucleic acid molecule.

18. A method for DNA diagnostics, comprising the steps of:

a) providing a sample containing a target DNA molecule;

b) reacting the sample with a conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is a DNA molecule;

c) detecting the target DNA molecule.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the target DNA molecule is a viral DNA molecule.

20. The method of claim 18, wherein the target DNA molecule is a bacterial DNA molecule.